

and people who love freedom are one person safer as a result of us finding this guy.

President Putin. I'm very pleased to see the mood the President of the United States is in. It is what we needed. Let me assure you that we will work together, and our work will be effective.

Now there is something I would like to draw your attention to. And we ultimately discussed this matter with our U.S. colleagues. We should not give a chance to anyone who is either engaged in terror or is supporting terror.

As I understood the second part of your question, concern was—has to do with Iraq. We should not forget about those who finance terrorism. Of the 19 terrorists who committed the main attacks on September 11th against the United States, 16 are citizens of Saudi Arabia, and we should not forget about that.

Now, where has Usama bin Laden taken refuge? They say that somewhere between Afghanistan and Pakistan. We know what Mr. Musharraf is doing to achieve stability in his country, and we are supporting him. But what can happen with armies armed with weapons that exist in Pakistan, including weapons of mass destruction—we are not sure on that aspect, and we should not forget about that. And we agree with

the President of the United States and his colleagues who say that we have to make sure that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction in its possession.

Diplomats have carried out a very difficult, a very complex work. And we do believe that we have to stay within the framework of the work being carried out by the Security Council of the United Nations. And we do believe that, together with the United States, we can achieve a positive result. As you know, our recent past gives us—we have an example of that kind, and the level achieved in our bilateral relations between Russia and the United States gives us hope that we can achieve such results.

President Bush. Thank you all. We've got a plane to catch. Don't keep us waiting. Thank you all. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:55 p.m. at Catherine's Palace. In his remarks, President Putin referred to Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization, and President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan. A reporter referred to Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, Al Qaida's chief of operations for the Persian Gulf. President Putin spoke in Russian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Joint Statement by President George W. Bush and President Vladimir V. Putin on Development of the U.S.-Russian Energy Dialogue *November 22, 2002*

Last May, we launched an energy dialogue to strengthen the overall relationship between our countries, and to enhance global energy security, international strategic stability, and regional cooperation. Already we can see important benefits from this new aspect of our relations.

A key success in this new dialogue was the first-ever U.S.-Russia Commercial Energy Summit held in Houston in the begin-

ning of October with the participation of both countries' governmental, business and scientific circles. The Houston Summit created new avenues for dialogue and cooperation on energy issues and led to decisions on concrete new investment projects and programs and business arrangements. We thank the more than 70 companies that contributed to its success and look forward

to the next energy summit, to be hosted in Russia in 2003.

We also support the further strengthening of relations between the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Ministry of Energy of Russia, and the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Russia. We welcome as well the activities of the intergovernmental American-Russian Working Group on Energy Cooperation. We note our Ministers' commitment to educational initiatives to promote best technical and managerial practices.

Commercial cooperation plays the key role in the U.S.-Russia Energy Dialogue. One of the most important results of the Houston Summit was the establishment of the Commercial Energy Working Group. We strongly support the efforts of the American and Russian companies involved to identify new and mutually beneficial commercial opportunities and to take down barriers to trade and investment.

At present, American and Russian companies are working hard to further connect

the American and Russian energy markets. We welcome the first delivery to the United States of Russian crude oil in July; the establishment of enterprises that will market Russian energy in the U.S.; and the proposal to build a deep-water port in Russia for energy exports. As a symbolic example of our deepening energy relationship, we note that for the first-time ever Russian crude oil was delivered to the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Investment is necessary to ensure the further development of Russia's energy and energy transportation sectors. To that end, we welcome several memoranda of understanding recently signed by Russian companies with the Export-Import Bank of the United States, as well as agreements signed with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Joint U.S.-Russia Statement on Iraq November 22, 2002

We have expressed our serious concern about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In this context, we pledge our full support for the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1441. We call on Iraq to comply fully and immediately with this and all relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, which were adopted as a necessary step to secure international peace and security.

We firmly support the efforts of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission Chairman and

the International Atomic Energy Agency Director General to fulfill their responsibilities under UN Security Council resolutions.

We call on Iraq, in strict compliance with UNSC resolution 1441, to cooperate fully and unconditionally in its disarmament obligations or face serious consequences.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.